

Message Text

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00081 041047Z

17 11
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W
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R 041025Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 557
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T TAIPEI 0081

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TW, CH, UR, US
SUBJECT: APPARENT SOVIET OVERTURE TO GRC: CHIANG CHING-KUO'S
EVALUATION OF SIDNEY (HSU-HSIN) CHANG

REF: TAIPEI 7708

1. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL, I DID A LITTLE OBLIQUE PROBING TO ASCERTAIN PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE MESSENGER UTILIZED BY THE SOVIETS, SIDNEY (HSU-HSIN) CHANG.
2. CHIANG CHING-KUO DISPLAYED A CERTAIN AMBIVALENCE IN HIS REACTION TO CHANG'S ROLE. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY INTRIGUED BY THE "FIVE POINTS" CHANG BROUGHT FROM MOSCOW AND HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE BELIEVED CHANG WAS REPORTING ACCURATELY AND DEPENDABLY ON WHAT THE SOVIETS HAD SAID. IT IS EVIDENT THAT CHANG (PRESUMABLY BEARING ROC PASSPORT) HAD FULL FREEDOM OF INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT SO FAR AS ROC WAS CONCERNED, AND HE HAD NO DIFFICULTY IN ENTERING TAIWAN AFTER HIS MOSCOW VISIT OR IN LEAVING TAIWAN FOR THE UNITED STATES A FEW DAYS THEREAFTER.
3. AT THE SAME TIME, THE PREMIER IMPLIED THAT HE HAD CERTAIN RESERVATIONS ABOUT CHANG. HE SEEMED UNSURE OF
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CHANG'S DISCRETION AND GOOD JUDGMENT, AND SAID HE WAS "AFRAID" SOVIETS WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH CHANG AGAIN IN THE UNITED STATES. PREMIER INTIMATED TO ME THAT USG MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER EXERCISING SURVEILLANCE OF CHANG'S

CONTACTS WITH SOVIET CITIZENS IN THE U.S.

4. COMMENT: WHILE PREMIER EVIDENTLY DOES NOT REGARD
CHANG AS SOVIET AGENT OR AS DISLOYAL TO THE ROC, I GATHER
THAT HE CANNOT ESCAPE AN INSTINCTIVE DUBIOUS FEELING ABOUT
THE SOUNDNESS OF ANY ROC NATIONAL WHO IS BEING "USED"
BY THE SOVIETS, EVEN WHEN THE PRODUCT OF THAT "USE" IS OF
SOME INTEREST TO THE RO*.
MCCONAUGHY

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 27 JUL 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TAIPEI00081
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750004-0010
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740174/abbrzahg.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: TAIPEI 7708
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <01-Aug-2001 by maustmc, RDFRD>; RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by morefirh>; APPROVED <20 MAR 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPARENT SOVIET OVERTURE TO GRC: CHIANG CHING-KUO'S EVALUATION OF SIDNEY (HSU-HSIN) CHANG
TAGS: PEPR, TW, CH, UR, US
To: STATE INFO MOSCOW
PEKING
HONG KONG
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005